

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary by calling it a "special news event" is deliberate, misleading, and an unfair ploy to impact the presidential election at the very end. It is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

If Sinclair is calling this a "special news event" they should have journalism's requirement to get the facts right and balance requires opposing voices be included in a "journalistic film." But, alas, this isn't journalism that Sinclair is practicing.

The public airwaves are free of charge, and are obligated by law to serve the public interest. There is a huge difference between forcing voters to buy a ticket to watch a partisan film... and showing something partisan over the free television airwaves. If Sinclair wants to sponsor "Stolen Honor" in movie theaters across the country, more power to them. But television stations are a different matter regardless of your political leanings. When large companies control the airwaves, we lose our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Thank you.